

WHITEHAVEN  
Rural District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
*On the First Three-quarters of the Year 1920,*

WITH

STATISTICAL TABLES FOR THE WHOLE YEAR 1920.


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T. S. MC.INTOSH, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P.E., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

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# To the Whitehaven Rural District Council.

WHITEHAVEN,

15th October, 1920.

GENTLEMEN,

It is my duty to submit to you a report on that period of the year 1920 during which I have been in office. The various conditions which have a bearing on the Public Health were fairly fully dealt with in my Report for 1919, and it therefore appears necessary only to make a statement of the work done and the principal events which have occurred in 1920.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIRST THREE-QUARTERS OF THE YEAR 1920.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Births Registered in the District ...	167	129	296
Illegitimate ... ..	4	6	10

Birth-rate—27.91 per 1,000 per annum.

Deaths Registered in the District ...	...	...	143
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Death-rate—14.04 per 1,000 per annum.

Number of Infant Deaths (under one year) ...	...	29
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Infant Mortality Rate—98 per 1,000 live births.

The above are the numbers of births and deaths registered in the district and take no account of transferable births and deaths. The necessary corrections for the whole year will be supplied to your M.O.H. by the Registrar General. The latter also supplies an analysis of the deaths for the year, and I do not propose to comment at length on the causes of death, but the following facts will probably be of interest.

## CAUSES OF INFANTILE DEATHS.

<i>Cause.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>		
Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	4
Wasting Conditions (Atrophy, Debility, etc.) ...	...	...	5
Congenital Defects ... ..	...	...	3
Accidents at Birth ... ..	...	...	<i>Nil.</i>
Congenital Syphilis ... ..	...	...	<i>Nil.</i>
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ... ..	...	...	<i>Nil.</i>
Measles ... ..	...	...	3
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	6
Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	<i>Nil.</i>
Convulsions ... ..	...	...	4
Other Causes... ..	...	...	4
Total ... ..	...	...	29

It will be noticed that Premature Birth, Wasting Conditions and Congenital Defects together account for twelve of the twenty-nine deaths. The causes in probably all of these cases have been operative before birth, and the only way of attacking them is by fortifying the health of prospective mothers. It is to be hoped that the Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes, instituted by the County Council, will have a beneficial effect in this respect.

The only other important causes of death are Bronchitis and Pneumonia, which, together, account for six deaths. It is not improbable that some of these are due to want of care of the children, and the visits of a Health Visitor may be expected, by their educative effect on the mothers, to diminish the numbers of deaths from these causes also.

The absence of deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis is a satisfactory feature.

## DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

### DEATHS FROM THE EIGHT PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

<i>Cause.</i>						<i>Number.</i>
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	8
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
*Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	17
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	0
						—
						26

\* Nine of these were deaths of residents of other districts, which occurred in Galemire Hospital.

It is satisfactory to note the absence of deaths from the more serious Fevers and from Scarlet Fever, as also the absence of deaths from Diarrhœa in young children. Measles has accounted for eight deaths, and Diphtheria for seventeen. Only eight of these, however, properly belong to this district, and this must, I think, be looked upon as very satisfactory in view of the prevalence of Diphtheria during the period. I think it is largely due to the fact that the patients, as a rule, have been promptly removed to Hospital. Most of the doctors practising in the Rural District, as soon as they diagnose a case, communicate directly with the Hospital by telephone. In this way much valuable time is saved.



## DEATHS FROM OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Mumps ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis—"General"	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Forms	...	...	...	...	...	1

The above is a very satisfactory record.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The work of the Inspector of Nuisances has been carried on as usual, but as a report for the whole year will be furnished by the Inspector I have not asked him to prepare a statement for this portion of the year.

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED, 1st January to 30th September, 1920.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and up-wards.	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup	68	...	15	42	7	3	1	...	66
Erysipelas ...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	15	...	2	12	...	1	...	..	15
Puerperal Fever ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	13	...	...	5	4	1	2	...	...
„ Other forms	4	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	5	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	112	3	19	63	12	6	8	...	81

Age unknown—Tuberculosis, Pulmonary, 1.

At the very end of 1919 two cases of Diphtheria occurred at Pica, and this proved to be the beginning of a rather serious epidemic in the Parish of Distington.

In January 18 cases occurred  
 In February 5 „  
 In March 7 „

and from the end of March to the end of September sixteen further cases occurred, at considerable intervals, the last case having been notified on September 21st.

In addition to the Distington cases five cases occurred at Lamplugh in January, but there was no apparent connection between these and the Distington cases.

Isolated cases have also occurred from time to time in various other parts of the district, but there has been nothing of the nature of an epidemic, except in the Parish of Distington.

All the Distington cases were removed to hospital and the houses disinfected. I visited Pica and the village of Distington on several occasions, and also visited other places in the district where cases had occurred. By examining contacts, and in some cases taking material from their throats and noses for bacteriological examination, one or two unrecognised cases were discovered and removed to hospital, so preventing them from spreading the disease further. Three of the five January cases at Lamplugh were discovered in this way, and after their removal no further cases occurred in that neighbourhood. Probably an epidemic at Lamplugh was prevented in this way.

In a similar way I discovered one case at Pica and one in Distington, but did not succeed in cutting short the epidemic.

The inhabitants of Pica Cottages are themselves largely to blame for the extent of the epidemic there. The carelessness of many people with regard to infectious disease is deplorable. Though warned repeatedly, both verbally and by the distribution of leaflets, of the importance of keeping away from infected houses, it was common to find visitors in a house where a patient was waiting for the ambulance to remove him to hospital. I even found a young child nursing a baby who had been notified as Diphtheria and was awaiting removal. With folly of this kind it is almost hopeless to contend.

There has been a small outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Hensingham during the summer months, ten cases having occurred. Most of the cases have been very mild, and it is most probable that some cases so mild as to pass unnoticed have been responsible for keeping the infection going.

#### SMALLPOX.

There has been an epidemic of Smallpox in Glasgow and several cases have occurred in the Southern Counties of Scotland. Cases have also occurred in Cheshire, so that we have had them on two sides of us at no very great distance. With a population largely unprotected by vaccination, such as we have at present, there is considerable danger that the disease might spread to this district. Warning leaflets, advising vaccination of children

and re-vaccination of adults have been issued throughout the district, the headteachers of the various schools having kindly undertaken the distribution, with the help of their scholars. You also, on my advice, made Chicken-pox a notifiable disease as a temporary measure, from the 3rd September. The reason for this is that mild cases of Smallpox are apt to be mistaken for Chicken-pox. Five cases of Chicken-pox have been notified. No case of Smallpox has occurred, but as cases are still occurring in Glasgow and the South of Scotland the danger cannot be said to be past.

### HOUSING.

Inspections under the Housing Acts have been carried out as usual by the Sanitary Inspector, and details for the whole year will be furnished by him in his annual report.

I inspected a house at Parton and reported that it was unfit for human habitation. A Closing Order was made, but it has not been found possible to enforce it up to the present, owing to inability to find other accommodation for the tenant.

The Council's Southern District Building Scheme for 133 houses is progressing, but progress has been somewhat slow owing mainly, I understand, to difficulties with regard to labour.

The Moresby scheme for 100 houses is also in progress.

In concluding my report I beg to offer you my best thanks for your kindness and courtesy to me during my short period of office, and for your appreciation of my endeavours to give you good service. I leave the service of the Whitehaven Rural District Council with great regret.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. S. Mc.INTOSH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## APPENDIX.

Dr. Mc.Intosh's Report covers the period from January 1st to September 30th, 1920. The Statistical Tables given in this Appendix have been prepared for the whole year 1920. Tables IX., X., XI. and XII. have been prepared for me by the Sanitary Inspector.

M. MANSON,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*April 7th, 1921.*

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WHITEHAVEN RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1920 AND FIVE PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Popula- tion estimat'd to Middle of each year.	Nett Births belonging to the District.			Nett Deaths belonging to the District.					
		Total No.	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation.	Illegitimate No.	Under 1 Year of age.				At all Ages.	
					Total No.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Illegiti- mate No.	Rate per 1,000 Illeg. Births.	No.	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
1915	13,722	365	26·59	..	30	82·19	..	..	172	12·53
1916	13,722	353	25·73	..	35	99·15	..	..	153	11·15
1917	13,135	330	25·12	..	37	112·10	..	..	188	14·31
1918	13,135	360	24·46	..	30	83·30	..	..	206	15·18
1919	{ 14,137* 13,571†	318	22·49	15	30	94·33	6	400	189	13·91
1920	14,112	401	28·41	26	37	92·24	1	38·46	186	13·18

\*—For calculation of the Birth-rate } Figures supplied by the Registrar  
†—For calculation of the Death-rate } General.



TABLE II.

Showing a Comparison of the Birth, Death and Infantile Mortality Rates of Whitehaven Rural District, with those of (1) England and Wales as a whole; (2) 96 great towns, including London; (3) 148 smaller towns; (4) London; (5) County of Cumberland; (6) Urban Districts of Cumberland; and (7) Rural Districts of Cumberland.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
England and Wales ... ..	25·4	12·4	80
96 great towns, including London (Census populations exceeding 50,000) ... ..	26·2	12·5	85
148 smaller towns (Census popula- tions 20,000 to 50,000) ... ..	24·9	11·3	80
London ... ..	26·5	12·4	75
County of Cumberland ... ..	27·6	14·2	90
Urban Districts of Cumberland ...	28·8	14·7	97
Rural Districts of Cumberland ...	25·9	13·6	78
Whitehaven Rural District ... ..	28·41	13·18	92·24

TABLE III.  
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1920.

Causes of Death.				Males.	Females.
All causes ..	..	..	..	98	88
Enteric Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	4	4
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	1	..
Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..	..	2	6
Influenza ..	..	..	..	2	1
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	2	3
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..	..	1	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	..	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease ..	..	..	..	6	9
Rheumatic Fever ..	..	..	..	1	..
Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	2
Organic Heart Disease ..	..	..	..	13	9
Bronchitis ..	..	..	..	5	5
Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	4	3
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) ..	..	..	..	..	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ..	..	..	..	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism ..	..	..	..	..	..
Nephritis & Bright's Disease ..	..	..	..	5	3
Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	1
Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Debility, &c. ..	..	..	..	12	5
Violence, apart from Suicide ..	..	..	..	6	2
Suicide ..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Defined Diseases ..	..	..	..	30	26
Causes ill-defined or unknown ..	..	..	..	3	1

TABLE IV.—DEATHS FROM EIGHT PRINCIPAL  
ZYMOTIC DISEASES IN 1920.

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Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	0
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Typhus ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Typhoid (Enteric) Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Diarrhœa and Enteritis (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total						19

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Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 per annum—1.35.

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TABLE V.—CAUSES OF INFANTILE DEATHS.

Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	4
Debility, Atrophy and Marasmus	...	...	...	...	8
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	7
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	3
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	2
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	4
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	6
Total					37

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births—92.24.

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TABLE VI.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE  
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.									Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages.							Age Unknown.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards		
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	78	...	16	47	10	4	1	...	...	75
Scarlet Fever	29	...	6	21	1	1	...	...	...	28
Erysipelas	6	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	5	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	27	...	...	10	9	2	4	...	2	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	8	1	3	2	...	...	2	...	...	...
Measles and German Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poli-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary & Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trench Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	156	3	25	84	21	8	12	1	2	103



TABLE VII.—SHEWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED.

PARISH.	Chickenpox.	Smallpox.	Cholera.	Plague.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhus Fever.	Typhoid or Enteric Fever.	Relapsing Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	Optalmia.	Acute Neonatorum.	Acute Polio-encephalitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Trench Fever.	Number of Cases removed to Hospital.
Distington ...	2	..	..	..	50	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
Ennerdale and Kinniside	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gosforth ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Haile ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hensingham	1	..	..	..	6	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Lamplugh ...	..	..	..	..	10	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Lowside Quarter	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Moresby ...	2	..	..	..	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Netherwasdale	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Parton ...	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ponsonby ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Preston Quarter	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rottington	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Bees ...	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
St. Bridget's	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
St. John's ...	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Salter and Eskett	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sandwith ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Weddicar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ...	5	..	..	..	78	6	29	..	..	..	...	..	..	10	4	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	104

TABLE VIII.—WATER SUPPLIES IN WHITEHAVEN  
RURAL DISTRICT.

Parish.	Village or Hamlet	Source of Supply.	By whom supplied.
St. Bees ...	St. Bees...	Springs on Dent	R.D.C. who purchase the water in bulk.
Rottington ...	Rottington ...	" "	" " "
Sandwith ...	Sandwith ...	Ennerdale Lake	R.D.C. who purchase in bulk.
Preston Quarter...	Hut Bank and Houses and works adjacent	" "	" " "
Hensingham ...	Hensingham and Keekle	" "	Whitehaven Town Council.
Moresby ...	Scilly Banks ...	" "	R.D.C., who purchase in bulk.
	Moresby Parks... Howgate ...	" "	Moresby Coal Co. R.D.C.
Parton ...	Parton ...	Springs over Sandstone at the High, Moresby Ennerdale Lake	R.D.C., who purchase in bulk.
Distington ...	Distington ... Pica ...	Crummock Lake Oatlands Pit ...	" " Moresby Coal Co."
Lamplugh ...	Kirkland ...	Springs from gravel over slate rock on Owsen Fell	R.D.C.
	Crossgates ...		R.D.C.
	Winder ...	Cogra Moss ...	Arlecdon & Frizington Urban District Council
Ennerdale and Kinniside	Ennerdale Bridge	Ennerdale Lake	Whitehaven Town Council.
Salter and Eskett	Salter and Eskett ...	Cogra Moss ...	Egremont Urban District Council.
Netherwasdale ...	Strands ...	Springs ...	R.D.C.
Gosforth ...	Gosforth, Hall Senna ...	Springs from gravel over volcanic rock in the valleys of Scale Beck, Peagill and Bengarthgill in the hills above Gosforth	Whitehaven Rural District Council.
Ponsonby ...	Ponsonby, Calder ...		" "
St. Bridget ...	Calderbridge, Blackbeck, and part of Beckermat		" "
St John ...	Part of Beckermat, Low Mill, Cringlethwaite and Scurrigill		" "
Lowside Quarter	Low Mill, Braystones, Nethertown, Middletown, Coulderton		" "
Haile ...	Haile ...		" "

All the supplies are constant. The source of supply in each case is such as to secure the greatest possible freedom from the risk of organic contamination. None of the waters has any appreciable plumbo-solvent action.

TABLE IX.—SHOWING CHARACTER AND NUMBER OF NUISANCES FOUND AND ABATED.

Accumulation of Manure	...	...	...	...	26
Standing liquid filth	...	...	...	...	2
Pail Closets and Privies	...	...	...	...	28
Water Closets	...	...	...	...	18
Dwelling-houses overcrowded	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughter-house Refuse	...	...	...	...	2
Urinal	...	...	...	...	1
Carcase of Dog	...	...	...	...	1
Total					80

TABLE X.—INSPECTIONS UNDER THE HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &amp;c., ACT, 1909, MADE DURING THE YEAR 1920.

PARISH.	Number of Houses Inspected.	Number of Informal Notices to Remedy Defects.	Number of Statutory Notices Served.	Number of Notices Complied with.	Number of Cases where work is in hand.	Number of Notices not complied with.
Distington	36	33	.	20	6	7
Ennerdale & Kinniside	6	5	...	3	1	1
Gosforth	24	19	...	11	6	2
Haile	4	4	.	3	1	...
Hensingham & Weddicar	53	48	...	32	11	5
Lamplugh	29	18	11	20	5	4
Lowside Quarter	8	7	...	5	1	1
Moresby	20	15	...	9	5	1
Netherwasdale	4	3	...	3	...	...
Parton	40	36	...	23	7	6
Ponsonby	2	2	...	2	.	...
Preston Quarter	4	3	...	2	1	...
Sandwith & Rottington	6	6	..	4	1	1
St. Bees	27	24	...	14	5	5
St. Bridget's	10	9	...	6	1	2
St. John's	21	19	...	9	6	4
Salter and Eskett	5	5	...	4	1	...
Total	299	256	11	170	58	39

TABLE XI.—SHOWING THE CHARACTER AND NUMBER OF DEFECTS  
FOUND TO EXIST.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.				DRAINAGE				DWELLING HOUSES.						
In-sufficient.	DEFECTIVE.		In-sufficient.	Choked or Defective.	Untapped Drain Inlets.	DEFECTIVE.		Roofs and Chimneys.	Windows.	Stairs.	Ceilings.	Floors.	Paving of Yards.	Spouting.
	W.C.s, Privies, Pail Closets & Ashpits.	W.C. Flushing Apparatus.				Sub-soil Drains.	Sinkstone Waste Pipes.							
11	127	48	13	99	5	0	8	92	13	2	19	35	68	22

TABLE XI. <i>continued</i>	DWELLING HOUSES.						WATER SUPPLY.		TOTAL.	
	Doors.	Plaster.	Fire Grates.	Damp Walls.	Low Ceilings.	Insufficient Light and Ventilation.	Bedroom unfit for use.	Dangerous Building.		Insufficient and Defective.
	10	10	7	59	1	18	1	2	4	674



TABLE XII.—SHEWING THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED WORKSHOPS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF WHITEHAVEN DURING THE YEAR 1920, AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED THEREIN.

Nature of Business.	No. of Work-shops.	Number of Persons Employed.		
		Male.	Female.	Total.
Joiners ... ..	7	13	..	13
Blacksmiths ... ..	9	15	...	15
Dressmakers ... ..	5	...	16	16
Tailors ... ..	3	7	2	9
Shoemakers ... ..	7	15	...	15
Cloggers ... ..	3	5	...	5
Painters ... ..	3	6	...	6
Plumbers ... ..	2	3	...	3
Flour Mixing ... ..	2	5	...	5
Confectioners ... ..	6	...	13	13
Motor Repairer .. ..	1	1	...	1
Total ... ..	48	70	31	101



12, CORKICKLE,

WHITEHAVEN,

*April, 1921.*

*The Chairman and Members of the  
Whitehaven Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Fourth Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1920, and, in doing so, desire to thank you for continued confidence, and for expressions of appreciation of my work from time to time.

Tables IX., X., XI. and XII. have been prepared for inclusion in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The outstanding feature of the year has been an epidemic of Diphtheria in parts of the District.

Careful enquiry was made in each case, and the source of infection in many instances was definitely established.

Disinfection of one hundred and fifty rooms used by infectious persons was carried out with exceptional thoroughness, therefore absorbing a comparatively large portion of time. I consider this work of vital importance.

Owing to the prevalence of Diphtheria, the Lamplugh Parochial School and Dyan Council School were closed.

During the year a motor ambulance was purchased for the Galemire Infectious Diseases Hospital. The work done in the speedy and comfortable conveyance of patients has been admirable, and has fully justified the decision of the Joint Committee to make the purchase.

**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.**—The works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for Beckermest are nearing completion.

The Surveyor has been instructed to prepare a Scheme for Fell Dyke, in the Parish of Lamplugh.

No progress has been made with the Schemes for Winder, in the Parish of Lamplugh, or for alteration and improvement to the outfall works at Hensingham. I strongly urge the need for these works to be commenced at an early date.

The Scheme for Gosforth has not been proceeded with, owing to its prohibitive cost.

The sewer at St. Bees has been repaired.

**Water Supply.**—The desirability of a pure and abundant supply of water for Distington and neighbouring Parishes has been recognised, and a survey is being made to locate possible sources of supply.

New branch mains have been laid at Hensingham and have secured an improved supply.

**Housing.**—Progress is being made with the erection of houses at Thornhill, in the Parish of St. John.

The number of applications for new houses is much in excess of the houses available.

One dwelling-house was closed as unfit for human habitation. Owing to the shortage of houses in the vicinity, and after certain repairs had been carried out, this house was allowed to be again occupied.

One dangerous building was made safe.

**Closet Accommodation.**—Whilst no general water-carriage system is possible in so large a Rural area, the conversion of privies and pail-closets into water-closets is carried out where efficient drainage systems and water supplies make it possible.

After completion of the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works at Beckermest a number of such conversions will be made.

There are approximately 1,360 water-closets, 1,026 privies, and 407 pail-closets in the District.

**Scavenging.**—The Council contract for the removal of house refuse in the following parishes (or parts thereof):—St. John, Moresby, Hensingham, Lamplugh, Parton, Distington and St. Bees.

Improved arrangements for removal of house refuse from premises at Winder, in the Parish of Lamplugh, have been made, and a new tip for refuse has been secured.



**Cowsheds.**—Regular and frequent inspection of the sixty cowsheds in the District is made. Twenty-five informal notices to abate nuisances arising from accumulation of manure, and in respect of limewashing, were served and complied with.

Improvements with regard to lighting, ventilation and paving have been effected in six instances.

There is need for much educational work respecting the cleanliness of buildings, the udders of cows, the clothing and hands of the milkers, and handling of the milk generally, before a pure milk supply can be assured.

**Slaughter-houses.**—There are six slaughter-houses on the register.

The requirements of the bye-laws in respect thereof are observed, and the necessary lime-washing and cleansing are carried out.

One carcase of a heifer was so affected with Tuberculosis as to render it unfit for human consumption. As the owner agreed to have it destroyed the carcase was not seized. I saw it removed and buried.

The Insurance Scheme of the Local Auction Mart Company against loss to the purchaser of any animal affected with disease is excellent, and is an important factor in assuring a sound and wholesome meat supply.

**Bakehouses.**—There are six bakehouses on the register. Eighteen visits of inspection were made.

Informal notices to repair floor and provide drain were served and complied with.

**Overcrowding.**—Three informal notices to abate nuisances from overcrowding were served. Two were complied with. It was not possible for the remaining occupier to obtain another and larger house.

**Fitness of Houses.**—There is marked improvement in the fitness of the lower and middle type working-class house, owing to repairs and improvements, some of which appear to have been carried out in order to secure the increase of rent allowed under the Rent Restriction Act.

With the return of more normal conditions many structural alterations to houses will be made.

**Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.**—This Act became operative on 1st January, 1920. In March, a supply of posters was received from the Cumberland County Council and displayed prominently throughout the District.

Eight applications for vessels containing poison were received. Although the applicants have not furnished figures showing the number of baits laid and taken, as requested, I understand the results have been satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JASON ELLWOOD,

*Sanitary Inspector.*